

NOTES AND NEWS

ORNITHOPHILATELY OR PHILATEORNITHOLOGY?

Quite a number of ornithologists combine an interest in birds with stamp collecting or, to use its more dignified name, philately. A welcome number of stamp collectors (philatelists, if you wish) specialising in topical collecting are becoming interested in the birds portrayed on stamps. They will no doubt find help in the systematic arrangement of their collections from *Animals on Stamps* by Strom & Lewy (watch for typographical errors) but New Zealand collectors will find a useful introduction to birds (and other animals) on New Zealand stamps, without having to go on their own to "Oliver" or "Soper," in Mr Arthur Parrott's currently-appearing articles in *The Press*, the Christchurch morning paper. Of special interest have been the contributions in "Penguins and White Herons" (article VIII of the series, *The Press*, 23 Dec. 1972, p. 11) and "Australian Gannets and Pied Stilts" (article X, 3 Feb. 1973, p. 12). Perhaps the OSNZ will gain some new members from the ranks of the philatelists!

A further link between ornithology and philately commemorates an achievement of great interest to us. The work of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society has been recognised on the occasion of its 50th anniversary by the New Zealand Post Office by the introduction on 6 February of a new 6c stamp, designed by Brian Langford, an honours student at the Canterbury University School of Fine Arts. As Gillian Shadbolt, author of an article on this stamp (*Forest and Bird* stamp honours struggle to save unique environment, *NZ Philatelic Bulletin* No. 9: [6-7], Feb 1973) states: "The Post Office's stamp, giving official recognition to the society's work in its early years, will add to present day efforts to provide an even stronger base for the work of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society in the years ahead."



AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE TOUR

Colin Searle is arranging another Australian Wildlife Tour, departing about September 1975. This is a coach camping tour of approximately 28 days, visiting the rain forests of Queensland, the Great Barrier Reef, the flood plains of Arnhem Land, the Barkley Table Lands and the Gulf of Carpentaria. There is a possible alternative substitution for the six day Arnhem Land section for those wishing to visit Alice Springs, Ayres Rock and Central Australia. A cook and courier driver go with the tour to assist with the camping. The cost is approximately \$400 and includes food and transport within the terms of the itinerary; the tour will be varied to suit road conditions and the comfort of the party. There is no age limit but participants must be reasonably fit and in good health. For details write to:

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